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| Date | Client/Matter Number |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| April 15, 2005 | 209139-00002 |
| From | Attorney Number |
| John S. Paniaguas | 32347 |
| Phone | Fax |
| 312.902.5312 | 312.577.4532 |

Total number of pages, including cover letter: pages
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18 pp.

Comments

RE: Patent Application No.: 10/631,372
Filing Date: July 31, 2003
Inventor: Peter Berkman
Title: Frost Free Valve Assembly System and Method
Confirmation No.: 2140

Please file the attached:
Transmittal Form (1p.)
Fee Transmittal (1p.)
Information Disclosure Statement (3 pp.)
PTO/SB/08a (1 p.)
PTO/SB/08b (1 p.)
Two References (10 pp.)

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Janette A. Reitz

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PAGE 1/18 * RCVD AT 4/15/2005 5:24:16 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXXRF-1/5 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:3129021061 * DURATION (mm-ss):07:42

* U.S. patent pages 9/18-18/18 (recycle) - CM

PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

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| | | |
|--|------------------------|---------------|
| TRANSMITTAL FORM <small>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</small> | Application Number | 10631,372 |
| | Filing Date | July 31, 2003 |
| | First Named Inventor | Peter Benman |
| | Art Unit | 3753 |
| | Examiner Name | Kevin L. Lee |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | Attorney Docket Number | 209139-00002 |

| ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply) | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/Declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Remarks</div> | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): <div style="text-align: center;">PTO/SB/08A PTO/SB/08B</div> |

| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT | | | |
|--|------------------------------|----------|--------|
| Firm Name | Katten Muchin Zavis Rosenman | | |
| Signature | <i>John S. Panagias</i> | | |
| Printed name | John S. Panagias | | |
| Date | April 15, 2005 | Reg. No. | 31,051 |

| CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING | | | |
|---|--------------------------|------|---------|
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below: | | | |
| Signature | <i>Janeille A. Reitz</i> | | |
| Typed or printed name | Janeille A. Reitz | Date | 4-15-05 |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 36 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Effective on 12/08/2004
Fees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4878).

FEE TRANSMITTAL

For FY 2005

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) \$180.00

Complete if Known

Application Number 10/631,372
Filing Date July 31, 2003
First Named Inventor Peter Berkman
Examiner Name Kevin L. Lee
Art Unit 3753
Attorney Docket No. 209139-00002

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

☐ Check ☐ Credit Card ☐ Money Order ☐ None ☐ Other (please identify): _____
☒ Deposit Account Deposit Account Number 50-1214 Deposit Account Name Katten Muchin
For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)
☒ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee
☒ Charge any additional fee(s) or underpayments of fee(s) under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 ☒ Credit any overpayments

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FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES

| Application Type | FILING FEES | | SEARCH FEES | | EXAMINATION FEES | | Fees Paid (\$) |
|------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| | Fee (\$) | Small Entity Fee (\$) | Fee (\$) | Small Entity Fee (\$) | Fee (\$) | Small Entity Fee (\$) | |
| Utility | 300 | 150 | 500 | 250 | 200 | 100 | |
| Design | 200 | 100 | 100 | 50 | 130 | 65 | |
| Plant | 200 | 100 | 300 | 150 | 160 | 80 | |
| Reissue | 300 | 150 | 500 | 250 | 600 | 300 | |
| Provisional | 200 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |

2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES

| Fee Description | Fee (\$) | Small Entity Fee (\$) |
|--|---------------|-----------------------|
| Each claim over 20 (including Reissues) | 50 | 25 |
| Each independent claim over 3 (including Reissues) | 200 | 100 |
| Multiple dependent claims | 360 | 180 |
| Total Claims | Extra Claims | Fee (\$) |
| - 20 or HP = _____ x _____ = _____ | | |
| HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20. | | |
| Indep. Claims | Extra Claims | Fee (\$) |
| - 3 or HP = _____ x _____ = _____ | | |
| HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3. | | |
| Multiple Dependent Claims | | |
| Fee (\$) | Fee Paid (\$) | |

3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE

If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listings under 37 CFR 1.52(e)), the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

Total Sheets - 100 = _____ / 50 = _____ (round up to a whole number) x _____ = _____

4. OTHER FEE(S)

Non-English Specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount)

Other (e.g., late filing surcharge): Information Disclosure Statement

Fees Paid (\$)

\$180.00

SUBMITTED BY

Signature John S. Panagias Registration No. 31,051 Telephone (312) 902-5200
Name (Print/Type) John S. Panagias Date April 15, 2005

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.138. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 10/631,372
Confirmation No.: 2140
Filing Date: July 31, 2003
Inventor(s): Paul Berkman, et al.
Group Art Unit: 3753
Examiner Name: Kevin L. Lee
Attorney Docket No.: 209139-00002
Title: Frost Free Valve Assembly System and Method

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

This document is being filed pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

I. TIME OF FILING

- _____ This document is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) as it is believed to be filed:
- _____ within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under § 1.53(d);
 - _____ within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application;
 - _____ before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or
 - _____ before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under § 1.114.

OR

Application No. 10/631,372

Page 2 of 3

_____ This document is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) as it is believed to be filed before the mailing date of any of a final action under § 1.113, a notice of allowance under § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. This Statement is accompanied by one of:

_____ the following statements; or

_____ Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

_____ No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

_____ The fee set forth in § 1.17(p). Fee Transmittal Form PTO/SB/17 is attached.

OR

_____ This document is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) as it is believed to be filed on or before the payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by one of the following statements and the fee set forth in § 1.17(p). Fee Transmittal Form PTO/SB/17 is attached.

_____ Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

_____ No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Applicant(s) respectfully request that the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A and/or Form PTO/SB/08B be considered and made of record.

OR

 X It is requested that this Statement and enclosures be placed in the file. It is understood that the cited references will not be considered by the Office.

Application No. 10/631,372

Page 3 of 3

II. FOREIGN PATENT OFFICE COMMUNICATIONS (if applicable)

_____ One or more of the items of information contained in the information disclosure statement were cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application.

_____ A copy of the search report is attached.

III. COPIES OF CITED REFERENCES

_____ Because this application was filed prior to June 30, 2003, copies of the document(s) listed on the attached Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B are attached.

OR

_____ Because this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of non-U.S. patent citations as listed on the attached Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B are attached.

AND (if applicable)

_____ All cited U.S. pending (non-published) applications listed on Form PTO/SB/08A are stored in the USPTO's IFW system. Copies are therefore not provided.

OR

_____ One or more of the cited U.S. pending (non-published) applications (filed prior to June 30, 2003) as listed on Form PTO/SB/08A has not been stored in the USPTO's IFW system. Copies for the unstored applications are provided herewith.

IV. REMARKS

The above constitutes information that an Examiner may find material to the examination of the subject application; however, it does not negate the patentability of the subject invention. Furthermore, it is not intended that submission of this information be taken as a representation that a search has been made or that no information which is more material exists.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required or credit any overpayment with respect to this communication to Deposit Account No. 50-1214. A duplicate copy of this communication is enclosed.

Date: April 15, 2005

By: John S. Paniaguas
John S. Paniaguas
Attorney or Agent for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 31,051

PTO/SP/088 (08-03)

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| | | | | | |
|---|--|----|--|---|--|
| Supplement for form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) | | | | Complete if Known Application Number 10/631,372 Filing Date July 31, 2003 First Named Inventor Peter Berkman Art Unit 3753 Examiner Name Kevin L. Lee Attorney Docket Number 209139-00002 | |
| Sheet | | of | | | |

[illegible]

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

EXAMINER. Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 500. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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